

Dear Members of the Transportation Committee,

My name is Lorena and **I am a resident of New Haven writing to express my strong support for SB 4 – An Act Concerning the Clean Air Act.**

We must take drastic action to address climate change, and the carbon mitigation aspect of this legislation is an important step in reducing our emissions.

Like thirty percent of New Haven residents, I do not own a car and thus rely on walking, biking, and public transit to move around the city. I represent the future of our city and state as more young people and families look to live in dense urban areas where they do not need to rely on car travel for school, work, and fun.

I am especially excited that SB4 add electric bicycles to the CHEAPR eligibility.

This will help parents and families of all incomes travel easily and safely and will encourage more people to consider using an e-bike for daily transportation trips around town. Sixty percent of vehicle trips are under 6 miles which could, in combination with better bicycle infrastructure, be done on an ebike. Additionally, electric cargo bikes are a valuable tool for women and parents and can help reduce the need for households to have multiple cars. Our state should be doing everything in our power to encourage more people to use e-bikes in an effort to reduce GHG emissions and air pollution from cars and SB4 is an important first step.

Additionally, **this bill would create electric equity** by including individuals who can't or don't want to take on the financial burden of car ownership. Right the CHEAPR program is underspent and is only offering incentives to people who can afford EV cars--expanding this program to include e-bikes will help lower income folks move towards electric transportation.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Lorena Mitchell
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